



Jesus was a freedom fighter. He liberated people from the powers of darkness so they could become who they were created to be. So if Jesus is our rabbi, we need to be just as committed to the ministry of helping people claim “no longer slaves” status. This series explores what that looks like.

Week 5: No Longer Slaves... “to the Fear of Death” (Rick Atchley – 10/27/24)

1. Rick reminded us that we all have an expiration date (**see Hebrews 9:27**). How have your feelings about death changed over time? What emotions or thoughts does this topic bring up for you? Follow up: **Read Hebrews 2:14-15**. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. **WHAT HE DID: Jesus didn’t come to evade death, but to invade death.** Why do you think Jesus chose to face death head on (**see John 10:18. & 11:39**)? What does this tell us about Jesus' mission? How does this differ from human approaches to death?
3. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Jesus has deactivated the enemy’s greatest weapon.** Discuss the significance of Jesus' words “*It is finished*” versus “*I am finished*.” What does this distinction reveal about the purpose of His death (**Revelation 1:17-18**)? Follow up: In what ways have you experienced the impact of Jesus' finished work in your life?
4. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Believing Jesus is the resurrection and the life puts the fear of death to death.** What specific fears or anxieties do you or others often experience when thinking about death? Follow up: How does the reality of our future resurrection help us face present sufferings and struggles with hope and endurance (**see 1 Corinthians 15:53-55**)?
5. **WHAT THIS MEANS: Those Jesus has liberated cannot be intimidated.** Why were the first Christians full of courage (**see 2 Corinthians 3:12 and Acts 3-4**)? Follow up: How should this truth impact our boldness in living for Christ today?
6. **WHAT WE DO: We share the hope that we have in Jesus’ name.** “Why should we be intimidated by the incarcerated?” **Read 1 Peter 3:14-15**. How would you share the hope of resurrection with someone who views death as the final end?
7. Rick closed by saying, “Most live in dread of their expiration date. Some live in anticipation of their resurrection date.” How could living in anticipation of your resurrection date shape your daily perspective and interactions with others? Specifically, What is one concrete step you can take this week to live in this freedom and actively share this hope with someone?

